GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:202
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
SCHOOL DROP OUTS
Singh Shri Ganesh;Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drop-out rate of girls in rural areas is more when compared to the urban areas in the country;

(b) if so, the comparative figures thereof during each of the last three years, gender-wise, class-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has carried out any study/assessment on the increase in drop-out rates in the rural and urban areas in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government to address the main issues and the reasons?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 202 FOR ANSWER ON 13.03-2007 ASKED BY SHRJ K. SUBBARAYAN AND SHRI GANESH SINGH REGARDING `SCHOOL DROP-OUTS`

(a), (b), (c) & (d): Gender-wise, stage-wise and state-wise drop out rates for the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are at annexure I, II & III respectively. Annual class-wise enrolment figures are not collected for urban and rural areas separately, and therefore drop out rates for these areas cannot be calculated separately. Details as given in the Annexures reveal that there is a general downward trend in drop out rates during the above period across each stage (primary, middle and secondary) of education.

(e) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, and the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme, access of girls to elementary schooling is being enhanced. Measures are also undertaken to provide flexible schooling, early childhood cares educational incentives, community action to support continuation of girls in the elementary education cycle. The Mid-day Meal Scheme that provides a cooked meal to all children of Government and Government-aided primary schools, Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) Centers and Alternative & Innovative Education (AIE) Centers, also promote school enrolment and participation.

As per a new Scholarship scheme introduced by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) from the academic session 2006-07, a girl who is the only child of her parents and who secures 60% or more marks in class X examination for the year 2006 onwards under CBSE system, would be given a scholarship of Rs.500 per month for studying in classes XI and XII in a CBSE affiliated school which charges tuition fee of not more than Rs. 1000 per month.

All Kendriya Vidyalayas provide fee waiver to all single girl children from classes VI to XII. In Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, one third of the seats are reserved for girls.